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greens, the Bann adding much to the beauty of the scenery, and arrives at Banbridge, an improving town.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

A CONSIDERABLE quantity of snow having fallen on the 10th and 11th days of January, 1814; and being much drifted on roads whose direction ran nearly north and south, leaving the east side open, and on the west a close high fence, the snow accumulated to the depth of 8 and 10 feet, on an average.

This was the case on the greatest part of the road from Bangor to Newtownards.

On the morning of the 12th, an attempt was made with a few men and a roller drawn by one horse, to clear and make passable a part of the mail-coach road, and not more than a quarter of a mile of it could be effected before night came on. Early next morning, the roller was sent out with a number of men, on the same road, who cleared about half a mile more. A new roller, or a machine (No. 1) was hastily put together, and sent out on another part of that road, drawn by oxen, and with 10 or 12 men, cleared upwards of three miles of the road from Bangor to Donaghadee, where the snow had not drifted much. On the 14th this machine made a clear passage from Bangor to Newtownards.

Another, (No. 2.) drawn by 4 horned cattle, and 2 horses, with a one horse roller following it, passed over 7 or 8 miles of road, and finally, on the 15th, made the road clear for carriages and cars, to Donaghadee; a post-chaise, with 4 horses, having on the 16th passed from Donaghadee through Bangor,

nearly to Newtownards, where the snow had again stopped the road; but on the 17th, it was completely opened, and kept open by these machines.

On the 25th and 26th, another road was opened from Donaghadee to Newtownards, by the spirited exertions of upwards of 250 of Donaghadee yeomen, together with the neighbouring farmers and people from Newtownards, without the assistance of a machine.

The greater part of this road running east and west, did not require quite so much labour as that between Newtownards and Bangor; and taking the number of those who joined the yeomen, &c. to be 50, there were at the rate of 150 men per day employed in clearing six miles, for 4 days; about one quarter of a mile of that road having been cleared by the machine; that is, from the quay of Donaghadee to the Bangor road, and from the joining of Bangor and Donaghadee road, to the square of Newtownards.

In 5 days, the machines, with their draft attendants, and on an average, 10 shovellers each day, cleared 8 miles of road, and kept it clear, though much snow fell and drifted during that period. The machines were also used on other roads.

The 25th was the last day necessary to use the machine (No. 3) on the mail-coach road, for the purpose of levelling ruts made by carts, &c.; as for several days a great part of the country had no passage for provisions to Belfast, except by this road, and the open road being very narrow, suffered much injury.

Had the machines been used in perfection at the first, two days work would have clearly opened 8 miles, about four-fifths of the

road from Bangor to Newtownards, and not more than one fifth between Bangor and Donaghadee being very much obstructed with snow. So that comparing the effect of the machines on 8 miles, with that of 150 men on 6 miles, supposing the roads to be in similar states, the work of the machine may be fairly valued as equal to 100 men and upwards.

It is somewhat singular that after these machines had been working some days, a plan of one very similar was sent, about the 29th, from the General Post Office.

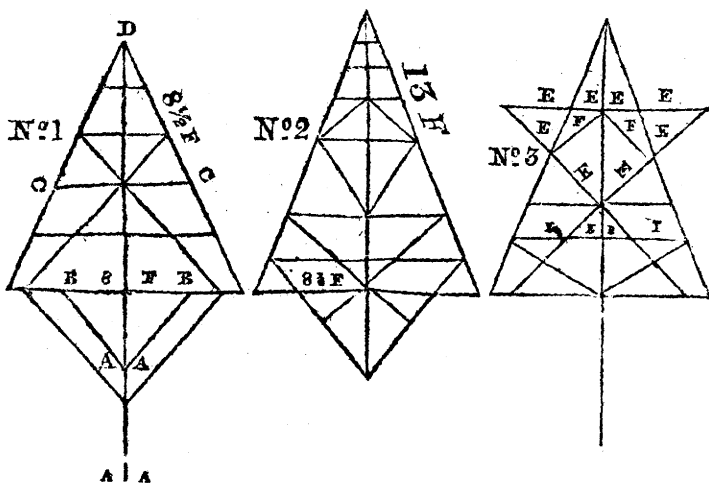
The maker here had never seen or heard of any thing of the kind, and his first effort was to make a rol-

ler for levelling the snow, finding that the roller answered as well when fixed as when going round, all he required was weight and shape, such as might be moved easily and with best effect; therefore instead of putting shafts to it, it was fitted to be drawn like a plough.

Rough timber being at hand, it was soon put together, and the experience of each day pointed out a new improvement.

There can be no doubt of its being capable of much more, and perhaps it may be turned to useful purposes in agriculture, which the publication of this statement may in some measure lead to.

PLAN AND DESCRIPTION OF THE MACHINES.



A. A.—Tail pole and its supports, strong, and fixed like the steer-tree of a plough.

B. B.—Back rail, round wood, 10 or 12 inches in diameter. Each side, 2 pieces of 4 inches diameter, with slabs to raise them to 12 inches from the level. Centre pole, 4 inches in diameter. Braces, 2 inches in diameter.

C.—Sides.

D.—Advancing point. Men near this may assist in the direction by a chain to draw it to either side; or to press the point down. No. 2 and 3 are larger, but same width, and require double the force to draw them; and were more efficacious than No. 1.

No. 3 shews an addition, for levelling cuts.

E. E.—The addition placed under No. 2.

F. F.—Where seats were placed for men with shovels to clear off snow. The additional cross bar was feather edged, and had wings for throwing off the snow.

*To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.**

IN the Belfast News Letter of the 17th December last, a paragraph appeared, stating, for the second time, instances of probity of one of the Belfast pawn-brokers in detecting theft. Without wishing to derogate in the smallest degree from the merit of such conduct, it must be admitted, that in proportion as this honest conduct is praiseworthy, that which is directly opposed to it is culpable. How much, then, it is to be regretted, that no instance of this quick-sighted vigilance appeared during a space of about nine months, preceding the 22d of June last; during which time a certain shop in Belfast had been deliberately and from time to time robbed of plate, jewellery and watches, to a considerable amount; and it cannot be denied that a great part of this plunder was found distributed amongst six pawn-brokers' offices. It is equally certain that had the same vigilance been exerted in this case, as in the one alluded to, the owners would have saved their property, and an unfortunate youth, the too willing instrument of villainy, might have been saved from destruction.

* These remarks were intended for the Belfast News-Letter, as the paragraphs to which they allude appeared in that paper; but the insertion was refused, on what grounds the Editor best knows.

It is but justice, however, to acknowledge, that three out of the six of those pawn-brokers, convinced of the truth of the above facts, have delivered up to the owners such of the above goods as they had taken in pawn; by which they have given the best proof of their having received them innocently. But what opinion can be formed of those others, who, having received in pawn part of the same goods; and from the very same individuals; which goods were identified on oath, and admitted by the pawn-brokers themselves to be the property of the claimants; notwithstanding which they still continue to withhold them from the lawful owners, in contempt of the magistrate's search-warrant; with the exception of some articles which they have been compelled to give up, on duplicates which were accidentally found in the deserted lodgings of the principal receivers, who have absconded. How is this conduct in the same individual to be reconciled to that above alluded to? But not content even with this, have they not entered into a combination to sue the injured party for damages! Damages for what? Have the pawn-brokers received any injury by retaining the goods of others? Yes: their immaculate characters have been wounded in the tenderest point, by broad insinuations having appeared in the public papers; that so many as thirty half dozens of silver tea-spoons, twelve table-spoons, twelve sugar-tongs, twelve gold seals, and several dozens of gold finger-rings, all perfectly new, could not have been pawned by two or three individuals of the very lowest class of society without exciting strong suspicion of their having been stolen. The pawn-brokers have sustained damages also, because the suffering